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Ser. No. 10/673,707

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus for recording a received signal as digital data in a file format, comprising:

a buffer memory for temporarily storing the received signal as digital data;

a storage means unit for storing the digital data in the file format as files;

a memory controller control means for performing a control ~~to cause~~ causing the digital data temporarily stored in said buffer memory to be stored in said storage means unit in the file format as files; and

a manual input means device for inputting a division command for dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant in order to store the digital data in said storage unit as files divided one from another, while said buffer memory receives the signal continuously; wherein

said memory controller control means carries out the control in such a manner that the digital data continuously received and stored in said buffer memory is stored in said storage means unit at a writing speed which is higher than a speed at which the digital data is [[was]] stored in said buffer memory, while being to thereby allow

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the digital data continuously stored in said buffer memory to be stored divided into as said files divided at the arbitrary instant corresponding in response to the division command from said manual input means device.

2. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus according to claim 1,  
further [for recording received signal as digital data in a file format comprising:  
~~a buffer memory for temporarily storing the received signal as digital data;~~  
~~a storage means for storing the digital data as files;~~  
~~a control means for performing a control to cause the digital data temporarily~~  
~~stored in said buffer memory to be stored in said storage means as files; and~~  
a division managing means device for generating a division timing signal for  
dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant in order to store the digital data in said  
storage unit as said files divided one another;

wherein said memory controller ~~control means~~ carries out the control in such  
a manner that the digital data continuously ~~received and~~ stored in said buffer memory  
is stored in said storage means unit at a writing speed which is higher than a speed  
at which the digital data is ~~[[was]]~~ stored in said buffer memory, ~~while being to~~  
thereby allow the digital data continuously stored in said buffer memory to be stored  
~~divided into as said files divided at the arbitrary instant corresponding in response to~~  
the division timing signal from said division managing means device.

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3. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said division managing means device generates said division timing signal at a predetermined time interval or at each of preset time instants.

4. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said division managing means device generates said division timing signal when a predetermined change in environmental condition has occurred or when a predetermined signal is received from the outside.

5. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said division managing means device comprises an artificial intelligence fuzzy-judgment means device which generates said division timing signal based on an automatic judgment.

6. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus according to any one of claims 2 to 5, ~~further comprising a manual input means for inputting a division command for dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant;~~ wherein said memory controller control means performs the control of dividing the digital data into files in response to the division command from said manual input means or the division timing signal from said division managing means device.

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7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus for recording a received signal as digital data in a file format and for reproducing the digital data stored in a file format comprising:

a storage means unit for storing the digital data ~~as a plurality of files in the file format;~~

a buffer memory for temporarily storing the received signal ~~as digital data in a recording mode and for temporarily storing the digital data read from said storage means unit in a reproducing mode;~~

a manual input ~~means device~~ for inputting a division command for dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant in the recording mode in order to store the digital data in said storage means as files divided one from another, while said buffer memory receives the signal continuously; and

a memory controller control means for performing a first control ~~to cause causing~~ the digital data temporarily stored in said buffer memory to be stored in said storage means unit in the file format ~~as files~~ in the recording mode and for performing a second control to cause the digital data stored in said storage unit ~~means in the form of a plurality of files~~ to be temporarily stored in said buffer memory in order to allow the digital data to be outputted ~~therefrom to the outside at a predetermined speed~~ in the reproducing mode; wherein

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said memory controller control means carries out the first control in the recording mode in such a manner that the digital data continuously received and stored in said buffer memory is stored in said storage means at a writing speed which is higher than a speed at which the digital data is ~~[[was]]~~ stored in said buffer memory, while being to thereby allow the digital data continuously stored in said buffer memory to be stored as said divided into files divided at the arbitrary instant corresponding ~~in response~~ to the division command from said manual input means device, and said memory controller control means further carrying out the second control in the reproducing mode in such a manner that the digital data is read from said storage means ~~into said buffer memory~~ at a reading speed which is higher than a speed at which the digital data is outputted from said buffer memory ~~to the outside~~ to thereby allow the plurality of files of digital data dividedly stored in said storage means unit to be outputted ~~to the outside~~ as continuous digital data in a continuous format.

9. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising for recording a received signal as digital data in a file format and for reproducing the digital data stored in a file format comprising:

a storage means for storing the digital data as a plurality of files;

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~~— a buffer memory for temporarily storing the received signal as digital data in a recording mode and for temporarily storing the digital data read from said storage means in a reproducing mode;~~

a division managing means device for generating a division timing signal for dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant in order to store the digital data in said storage means as files divided one from another; and

~~a control means for performing a first control to cause the digital data temporarily stored in said buffer memory to be stored in said storage means as files in the recording mode and for performing a second control to cause the digital data stored in said storage means in the form of a plurality of files to be temporarily stored in said buffer memory in order to allow the digital data to be outputted therefrom to the outside at a predetermined speed in the reproducing mode;~~

wherein said memory controller control means carries out the first control in the recording mode in such a manner that the digital data continuously received and stored in said buffer memory is stored in said storage means unit at a writing speed which is higher than a speed at which the digital data is ~~is~~ stored in said buffer memory, while being to thereby allow the digital data continuously stored in said buffer memory to be stored divided into as said files divided at the arbitrary instant corresponding in response to the division timing signal from said division managing device means, and said control means further carrying out the second control in the reproducing mode in such a manner that the digital data is read from said storage

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~~means unit into said buffer memory~~ at a reading speed which is higher than a speed at which the digital data is outputted from said buffer memory ~~to the outside~~ to thereby allow the ~~plurality of~~ files of digital data ~~dividedly~~ stored in said storage means to be outputted ~~to the outside~~ as continuous digital data in a continuous format.

10. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said division managing means device generates said division timing signal at a predetermined time interval or at each of preset time instants.

11. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said division managing means device generates said division timing signal when a predetermined change in environmental condition has occurred or when a predetermined signal is received from the outside.

12. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said division managing means device comprises an artificial intelligence fuzzy-judgment means device which generates said division timing signal based on an automatic judgment.

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13. (Currently amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to any one of claims 9 to 12, ~~further comprising a manual input means for inputting a division command for dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant, wherein said~~ memory controller control means performs the control of dividing the digital data ~~into files in response to the division command from said manual input means device~~ or the division timing signal from said division managing means device.

14. (New) A recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the files from a continuous signal are stored in a single directory in said storage unit.

15. (New) A recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the files from a continuous signal are stored in said storage unit with sequential numbers, respectively.

16. (New) A recording apparatus for recording a received signal as digital data in a file format, comprising:

a buffer memory for temporarily storing the received signal as digital data;

a storage unit for storing the digital data in the file format;

a memory controller for performing a control causing the digital data temporarily stored in said buffer memory to be stored in said storage unit in the file format; and



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a manual input device for inputting a division command for dividing the digital data at an arbitrary instant in order to store the digital data in said storage unit as files divided one from another, while said buffer memory receives the signal continuously; wherein

said memory controller carries out the control in such a manner that the digital data continuously stored in said buffer memory is stored as files divided at the arbitrary instant corresponding to the division command from said manual input device.